

**From:** Geoffrey Costello  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 12:38pm  
**Subject:** Bad Settlement.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you to voice my displeasure over the proposed deal with Microsoft. Microsoft is a company that has failed to follow the restrictions set upon it by previous judges and is beyond any doubt, untrustworthy. Microsoft has continued its predatory tactics and the situation is worsening. With XP Microsoft is seeking to shut out competitors from the Desktop arena and to force consumers to upgrade to future Microsoft operating systems, even if no upgrade is desired by the consumer. If this company receives a slap on the hand after their previous behavior - which is exactly what the current remedy is - then they will have no reason not to engage in the same anti-competitive tactics they've used for the last decade. They will then use dominance on the Desktop to monopolize the server arena (with .NET).

Capitalism is a great system, so long as the companies in the economy are playing by the rules. Unfortunately, these rules are broken by some to the detriment of the vast majority of Americans. Phillip Morris, and Enron are extreme cases of bad behavior by US corporations. Microsoft is not in the same category as these companies, but they have broken the law, they are a monopoly, and several of their witnesses (including their founder) have committed perjury in attempting to maintain their monopoly. They must be punished severely.

If this deal goes through, it will significantly lower my opinion of, and confidence in the Justice Department as well as President Bush's administration.

Regards,  
Geoffrey Costello